



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Caliente Field Station
P.O. Box 237 (1400 South Front St.)
Caliente, Nevada 89008-0237
http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/ely_field_office.html



JUN 23 2008

In Reply Refer to:
4110
NV-045.09

Roger Dieleman
5454 Arville St.
Las Vegas, Nevada 89119

Dear Mr. Dieleman,

The Barnes Canyon Fire (DL8J), located in Lincoln County, Nevada, started on July 3, 2007 due to human causes. The fire burned 958 acres. A total of 693 acres burned on the Mustang Flat Allotment. The remainder of the burn occurred on the Cottonwood Allotment to the south.

As a result of the fire, rest and rehabilitation of the burn area vegetation is required to foster perennial vegetation establishment. The emergency stabilization team recommended reseeding to be aurally applied. The seeding was applied in December, 2007. The burn area will be fenced to exclude grazing in the burn area during the closure period.

Enclosed you will find the Burned Area Livestock Closure Agreement and associated map. Please sign the agreement and return it to Shirley Johnson, Rangeland Management Specialist at P.O. Box 237 Caliente, NV 89008. Your cooperation in the recovery of the burned area is appreciated. If you have any questions please direct them to Ms. Johnson at (775) 726-8120.

Sincerely,

Ron Clementsen
Field Manager
Caliente Field Office

Enclosure:
Agreement

cc: Interested Publics:
Steve Foree
Brad Hardenbrook
Cindy MacDonald
Mike Scott
Western Watersheds Project

RECEIVED

JUN 27 2008

DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
BUDGET AND PLANNING DIVISION

Steven Carter
Rob Mrowka
Tuffy Ranch Properties
Richard Orr
Nevada State Clearinghouse

**Burned Area Livestock Closure Agreement
Barnes Canyon Fire (DL8J)
Mustang Flat Allotment (01048) and
Cottonwood Allotment (21021)**

On July 3, 2007, the Barnes Canyon Fire started due to human causes. The Barnes Canyon Fire burned approximately 958 acres of public lands representing approximately 10% of the Mustang Flat Allotment and less than 1% of the Cottonwood Allotment. The fire area and both allotments occur in the Clover Creek Watershed south and east of Caliente, Nevada. Fire emergency stabilization and rehabilitation (ES&R) efforts will occur over the next 1-3 years. The area has been seeded and is in the process of being fenced temporarily to keep livestock and wild horses off the burned and seeded areas. The Ely Field Office has more information regarding specific planned treatments for the stabilization and rehabilitation of the natural resources in the Barnes Canyon Burn area.

To protect the soil from erosion and to ensure maximum revegetation potential, the burned areas in the Mustang Flat and Cottonwood allotments (see the attached map) will be temporarily closed to livestock grazing. This closure agreement is effective immediately and will remain in effect for a minimum of two growing seasons or until emergency stabilization and rehabilitation objectives are met (see below). Livestock will be managed so that they are not free to graze within the burn perimeter. Management strategies to keep cattle off the burn may include preventing access to current water sources in or near the burned areas, hauling water to temporary water haul sites (30 days or less at each approved site), and herding and salting away from the burn. Cattle are not to be allowed to graze within the burned area until objectives are met. Management practices such as the use of temporary water hauls will be approved only after clearances are performed by qualified BLM staff.

Since this is a partial allotment closure, the following will also be completed:

- 1) Notify the Rangeland Management Specialist if your cattle have been in the burn and you have removed them;
- 2) Remove any cattle from the allotment which are repetitively found in burn areas.

The primary goals of the fire closure agreement area are:

- 1) Rest and establishment period for seeded species (where seeding treatments are applied) and naturally regenerating species;
- 2) Prevention of invasive species and noxious weed establishment;
- 3) Provide and protect forage and cover for wildlife species;
- 4) Prevent loss of species diversity.

The Bureau of Land Management and other cooperating agencies will monitor the recovery of the burned area to see if the emergency stabilization goals and objectives are being achieved. The area will be monitored to determine that sufficient perennial vegetation establishment and soil stabilization has occurred. An assessment will be made to determine if the following objectives have been met:

- 1) An average of four or more desirable perennial plants per square-meter will be permanently established in the burned area.
- 2) Re-sprouting vegetation will have good leader growth appropriate to the species for the site (based on available monitoring or production data from wildlife, range, NDOW and/or NRCS), will provide vertical and horizontal cover appropriate for the site in post-burn status, and will show resistance to damage from grazing by pulling or tearing of the vegetation.
- 3) Newly sprouting vegetation, including seeded species, with young root systems resist disruption when pulled indicating grazing would not impair established root systems.
- 4) Native vegetation will show vigor, health and evidence of reproduction through subsequent seed or vegetative spread.

This closure agreement is issued pursuant to Title 43 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Section 4110.3-2 (a) Permitted use may be suspended in whole or in part on a temporary basis due to drought, fire, or other natural causes, or to facilitate installation, maintenance, or modification of range improvements. Due to the size of the burn and the low percentage of the allotment acreage burned, no active Animal Unit Months (AUMs) for livestock grazing will be affected during the closure period. However, if use levels are determined to exceed 50% outside of the burn closure area, authorized use could be reduced following field inspections to protect the rangeland health outside the burn area on the Mustang Flat Allotment. The permittee is asked to work closely with the assigned Rangeland Management Specialist in the Caliente Field Office during the temporary closure period.

Livestock closures following fires are consistent with ES&R policy which states that burned areas must be closed to grazing until monitoring data show that recovery objectives have been met (pages 35-36, H-1742-1, Burned Area ES&R Handbook).

A map of the closed area is attached to this agreement.

SIGNATURES:

Roger J. Deileman, Permittee

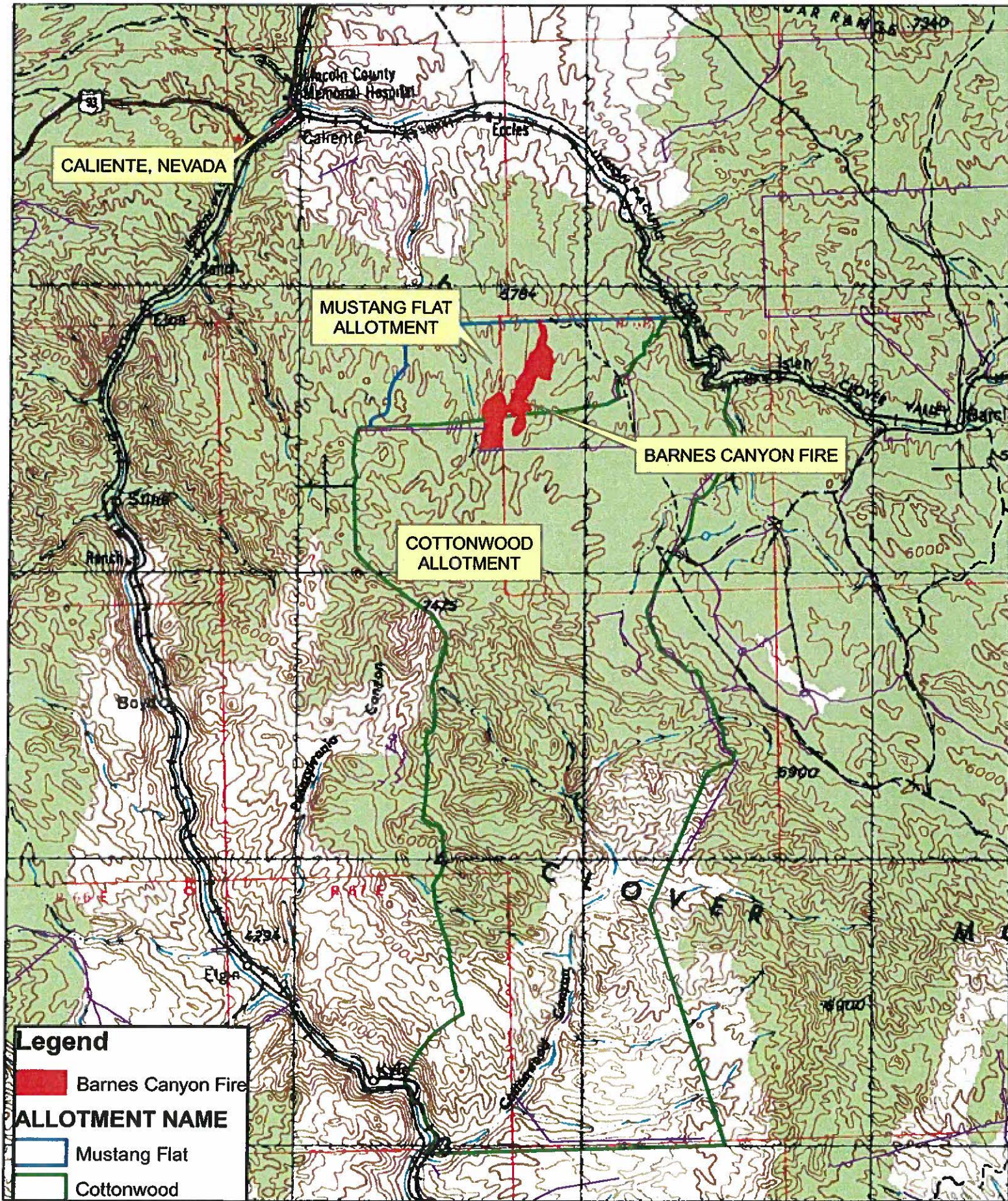
Date

Robert Lewis, Permittee
(represented by Gibson Lewis)

Date

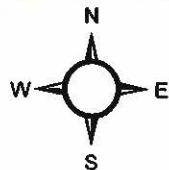
Ron Clementsen
Field Manager
Caliente Field Office

Date



0 1.25 2.5 5 Miles

**BARNES CANYON (DL8J)
FIRE CLOSURE MAP**



"NO WARRANTY IS MADE BY THE BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT AS TO THE ACCURACY, RELIABILITY, OR COMPLETENESS OF THESE DATA FOR INDIVIDUAL USE OR AGGREGATE USE WITH OTHER DATA."



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JUN 23 2008

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4110
NV-045.09

Robert Lewis, Permittee
c/o Gibson Lewis, Representative
P.O. Box 520
Moapa, Nevada 89025

Dear Mr. Lewis,

The Barnes Canyon Fire (DL8J), located in Lincoln County, Nevada, started on July 3, 2007 due to human causes. The fire burned 958 acres. A total of 265 acres burned on the Cottonwood Allotment, the remainder of the fire occurred on the Mustang Flat Allotment to the north.

As a result of the fire, rest and rehabilitation of the burn area vegetation is required to foster perennial vegetation establishment. The emergency stabilization team recommended reseeding to be applied aerially. The seeding was applied in December, 2007. The burn area will be fenced to exclude utilization in the burn area during the closure period.

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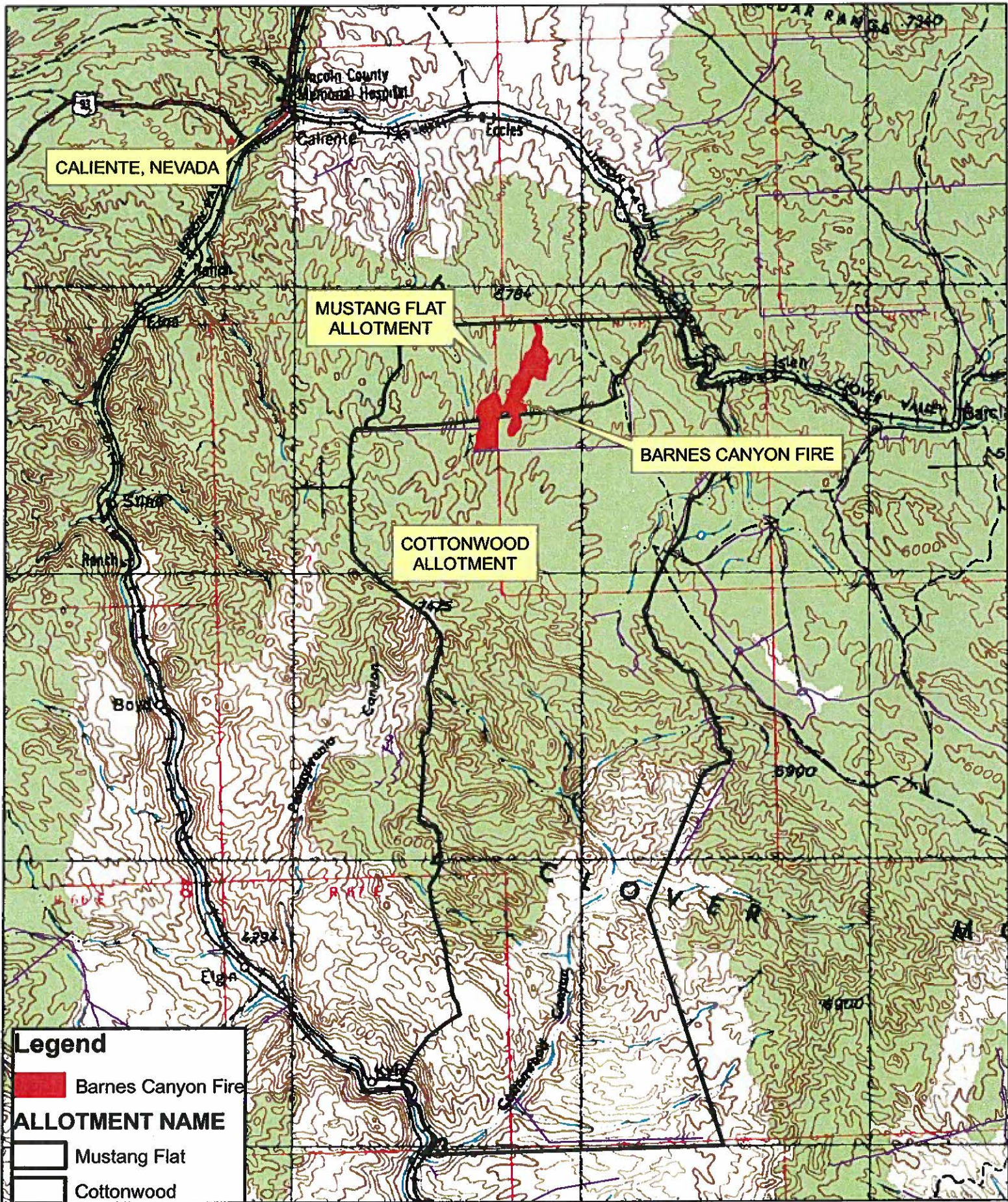
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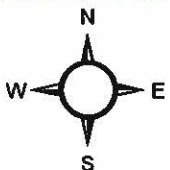
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Field Manager
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FIRE CLOSURE MAP**



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